

HOUSE RESOLUTION 363

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Dr. Doug and Mrs. Faye Sager on the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those successful marriages that have stood the test of time to serve as exemplars for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, on December 18, 1959, Dr. Doug Sager and Elizabeth Faye Thompson were joined in holy matrimony at Wilkes Baptist Church in Midfield, Alabama, and, since that fateful day, this outstanding couple has faced the world as one, basking in the glow of their love for each other during life's joys and sorrows; and

WHEREAS, Dr. and Mrs. Sager have had the good fortune to spend a significant part of their lives in East Tennessee, where they have been highly respected members of their community and the very epitome of good neighbors; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Sager is a stalwart servant of the Lord who has rendered many years of faithful, selfless, and effective pastoral leadership with several different congregations; and

WHEREAS, as a young man, Doug Sager answered a divine call to the ministry and accepted his first pastorate at the age of twenty at the Trinity Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, the Sagers moved to Tennessee to lead the First Baptist Church of Alcoa, and, throughout his thirteen years of faithful work there, Dr. Sager served with dedication, vigor, and enthusiasm to perform God's work, increasing the average attendance from 300 to 859, averaging over 100 baptisms each year, and even establishing syndicated radio and television programming; and

WHEREAS, after lending their time and talents to Roebuck Baptist Church in Alabama, Dr. and Mrs. Sager returned to East Tennessee to begin his ministry with the First Baptist Church Concord in January 1993, and their countless outreach efforts breathed new life into the congregation, growing the attendance from 816 to its current average of over 2,300; and

WHEREAS, a talented and esteemed writer, Dr. Sager has penned several books, including *A Scriptural Guide to Spiritual Gifts*, *Angels*, *A Scriptural Guide to Spiritual Excellence*, and *Leadership That Lasts*; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Faye Sager has selflessly dedicated herself to her family as a wife and mother, to her many close friends as a confidante, to her community as a proud and involved member of the church, and to her husband as a tireless pastoral partner and helpmate who continually gives him the utmost love, support, and encouragement; and

WHEREAS, the couple's praiseworthy marriage has produced three fine children: Traci, who resides in Alcoa, Tennessee; Tim, a certified public accountant, who makes his home in Birmingham, Alabama; and Cathy, who resides in Atlanta, Georgia; and they are the proud and doting grandparents of five precious grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, for fifty years, this blessed union has grown and prospered as an expression of time-honored family values and selfless love; and

WHEREAS, marriages such as the Sagers' are truly the foundation upon which our society is built and a beacon of sanity and continuity in this ever-changing world; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Dr. Doug and Mrs. Faye Sager on the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for much continued happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.